

Message Text

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42

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 EB-07 SCA-01 CU-02 PA-01 USIA-06

VO-03 FAA-00 DOTE-00 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 435

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: IR, USTS, BEXP

SUBJECT: US TRAVEL SERVICE--PROMOTING TRAVEL, BICENTENNIAL
CELEBRATIONS

1. EMBASSY HAS LEARNED VIA USIS NEWSBRIEFS AND LOCAL PANAM OFFICE
OF INTENDED VISIT MARCH 14-16 TEHRAN OF TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF US
TRAVEL SERVICE FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROMOTING TRAVEL TO THE UNITED
STATES DURING THE BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS.

2. MARCH 14-16 IS BEGINNING OF NOW-RUZ (IRANIAN NEW YEAR) WHEN
MOST GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTOR PEOPLE TAKE LONG LEAVE.
BELIEVE SCHEDULING TWO-DAY PROGRAM DURING THIS TIME WOULD BE
UNPRODUCTIVE AND DIFFICULT.

3. IN ADDITION TO UNFORTUNATE TIMING, WE QUESTION PROPRIETY OF
SUCH A PROMOTION, GIVEN NUMBER OF YOUNG HIGH-RISK VISA APPLICANTS
AT THIS POST.

4. IF USTS STILL WISHES TO STAGE PROMOTION AFTER FURTHER
DISCUSSION WASHINGTON, SUGGEST IT CONSIDER COORDINATING WITH IRAN-
AIR AND PAN-AM IN CONNECTION WITH RECENTLY ANNOUNCED PLANNED
MAY DEBUT TEHRAN-NEW YORK IRAN AIR SERVICE.

HELMS

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